

The Chinese Exhibition

The Exhibition of Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China
The William Rockhill Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum of Fine Arts
April 20th to June 8th, 1975

中華人民共和國出土文物展覽

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PRIMITIVE SOCIETY

About 400,000 - 600,000 years ago

As a result of continued discoveries of human fossils and cultural relics since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, it is now possible to link various important stages of human evolution.

China has fossils of Yuanmou Man from one million years ago, of Lantian Man who lived some 600,000 years in the past, and of Peking Man from 400,000 to 500,000 years ago. All three retained certain primitive physical features.

About 6,000 to 7,000 years ago many tribes were scattered over the vast expanse of China, leaving rich cultural relics to posterity. Distributed along the Yellow River are remains of the Yangshao and Kansu Yangshao cultures.

Some 4,000 to 5,000 years ago are the Lungshan culture developed along the Yellow River and the Chinglien kang culture on the Yangtze.

I. Excavations of the Sites of Lantian Man
and Peking Man
about 400,000-600,000 years ago

Both Lantian and Peking Man lived in the early Paleolithic period. At Lantian in Shensi province, fossils of a human type were first discovered in 1963 and 1964 and named Lantian Man. Additional fossils of Peking Man and evidence that he used fire have been unearthed at Choukoutien on the outskirts of Peking since the founding of the People's Republic of China.

These early men hunted, fished, gathered edible plants, and were able to fashion simple stone tools.

Objects 1-13

II. Yangshao Culture Site at Panpo Village
Sian, Shensi Province
(about 6,000 years ago)

The Neolithic village at Panpo was excavated between 1954 and 1957. The remains indicate that the villagers practiced primitive farming as well as hunting and fishing.

Mastering pottery making, the Yangshao people often painted their vessels with lively patterns. Some pots are incised with simple marks which may be interpreted as the beginning of Chinese script.

III. Painted Pottery of the Kansu
Yangshao Culture
about 4,000 years or more ago

Belonging to the Neolithic period, the pottery in the exhibition was discovered between 1956 and 1966 at different sites along the upper Yellow River.

For handmade pottery, the ware has exceptionally thin, uniform walls. The elegant designs painted on the clay harmonize with the vessels' shapes. Many patterns are geometric, but some are formed of undulating lines.

IV. Chinglien kang Culture
about 5,000 years ago

This Neolithic culture was first discovered in 1951. The people, who engaged mainly in agriculture, fashioned stone tools, each one functional in shape. They also made polished jade ornaments.

The refined forms and floral decorations of Chinglien kang pottery ware are unlike those of any other known ware.

V. Lungshan Culture in Shantung Province
(about 4,000 years ago)

Belonging to the late Neolithic period, the culture is named after a site in Lungshan, Shantung province. The pottery on display was excavated in the same province between 1959 and 1964.

The vessels, mostly thrown on the potter's wheel, demonstrate great skill. Indicating the high level of craftsmanship are the extremely thin walls of some pieces and the glossy black surfaces on four examples in the exhibition.

SLAVE SOCIETY

About 21st Century - 475 B.C.

The founding of the Hsia dynasty marked the beginning of China's slave society.

The system further developed in Shang and Western Chou. During the Spring and Autumn period, as a result of slave revolts and the emerging landlord class, the slave system gradually declined.

Shang Dynasty
(16th-11th century B.C.)

Bronze metallurgy was an important invention during the Shang dynasty, and the production of bronze vessels was the most significant craft. Other arts, however, also progressed. In ceramics an outstanding innovation was high-temperature firing to make proto-porcelain ware.

The Shang culture, taking its name from an ancient tribe that inhabited the lower Yellow River, centered in Honan province. There, agriculture was the principal activity. Because of increasing commerce, however, some rural areas developed into cities.

VI. Shang Dynasty Site at Chengchow,
Honan Province
(16th-11th century B.C.)

Remains recovered in 1950 at Chengchow show the existence of an important city in the early Shang dynasty. Ceramic kilns, bronze foundries, and bone-carving workshops were found in addition to dwellings and tombs.

The bronze vessels from Chengchow are small, thin-walled, and sparsely decorated. Proto-porcelain, a forerunner of later Chinese wares, was also discovered in the ruins.

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VII. The Yin Ruins at Anyang,
Henan Province
(14th-11th century B. C.)

The remains of the Shang, or Yin, capital at Anyang represent the civilization of the late Shang dynasty.

The many excavations at the site have unearthed a wealth of artifacts, including inscribed bronze vessels and oracle bones. On all important occasions, Shang slave-owners consulted oracles. The inscriptions on the Anyang bones reveal well-developed forms of early Chinese writing.

VIII. Shang Dynasty Bronzes from Shansi,
Anhui and Hunan Provinces
(12th-11th century B.C.)

Using piece-molds, bronze casters reached a high technical level by the late Shang dynasty. Decorative motifs often included animal masks, human masks, or dragon designs. The spectacular bronzes of Shang and the succeeding Chou dynasty are outstanding in the art history of the world.

Western Chou
11th Century-770BC

All principal towns, by now, had workshops for casting bronze. Many ritual vessels were made for use in ancestral sacrifices or to record military achievements and the king's awards.

Chou, a tribe that lived on the plateau along the Wei River, overthrew Shang rule and set up a state in Shensi province. During the Western Chou, a whole network of slave-owning regimes was established by instituting vassal states.

IX. Western Chou Bronzes from
Chichia Village, Fufeng
Shensi Province
10th-9th century BC

At Chichia two hoards of Western Chou bronzes were discovered in 1960 and 1963.

The vessels represent dissimilar styles, indicating that they were made at different times. The wine vessel [#93], elaborately decorated with animal masks, is an impressive example of early Chou casting. On the other hand, the tall vessel with handles [#97] is typical of the bronzes made in late Western Chou; it has only undulating bands and stylized animal motifs. Both works, like many of this time, bear long inscriptions.

X. Western Chou Bronzes from Ketso
Liaoning Province
(11th century B. C.)

In 1955 a number of early Western Chou bronzes were unearthed in Liaoning province. They form one of the largest caches of bronze vessels to be found so far north in China.

Both examples bear inscriptions on the interiors. The ritual vessel [#99] is marked with a clan sign and the name of the person to whom it was dedicated.

59

XI. Western Chou Tombs at Tunhsi,
Anhwei Province
(11th century B. C.)

Three Western Chou tombs were excavated at Tunhsi in 1959 and 1965.

They contained over 300 funeral objects, mainly bronzes and proto-porcelain wares.

While bronzes such as the wine vessel [#101] are similar in shape to some found in the north, the highly stylized animal masks that decorate the food container [#102] reflect local traditions.

The Spring and Autumn Period
(770-475 B. C.)

Bronze vessels were often large in scale, while their decoration was frequently elegant and expressive.

As the royal house of Chou declined, local vassal states grew in power. Thus, the Spring and Autumn period was a time of transition from the slave system to feudalism.

45

XII. Bronzes of the Spring and Autumn
period from Anhwei Province
5th century BC

This chime came from the tomb of the Marquis of Tsai. The inscriptions, some having as many as eighty-two characters, record the relationship between the states of Tsai and Chu.

These bells were hung and produce nine different notes; having no clappers, the bells were struck. The chime provides important material for the study of ancient Chinese music.

XII. Bronzes of the Spring and Autumn
period from the Anhwei and Shansi Provinces
5th century BC

These massive vessels were discovered at Houma in Shansi province.
With complex designs, the bronzes are typical of the Spring and
Autumn period.

FEUDAL SOCIETY

475 BC - 1840 AD

Chinese feudal society continued for more than two thousand years. During this period a unified, multi-national country was formed, covering a vast territory and supporting a large population. With well-developed agriculture and craft industries, a self-sufficient economy and splendid civilization evolved.

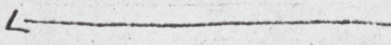
Warring States Period
(475-221 B.C.)

Improved methods in iron smelting, the use of cast iron, and the invention of metal molds, all represent China's metallurgical achievement of this early period. Moreover, innovations occurred in the technique of inlaying bronze with gold and silver.

The years of the Warring States, in which many vassal rulers fought among themselves, were the formative period of Chinese feudal society.

XIII Surveys and Excavations of City
Sites of Warring States Period
(4th century B. C.)

Among the important city sites which Chinese archeologists have surveyed and excavated is Hsiatu, the capital of the vassal state

of Yen.  Found in the city, one of the most famous at the time, were the palace quarters, the residential district, and workshops for casting iron and making pottery.

The ceramic tiles and the handsome bronze knocker in the exhibition were discovered in the foundations of major buildings at the Yen capital.

XIV. Iron-Casting molds from Hsinglung
Hopei Province
4th century BC

In 1953 a hoard of eighty-seven molds for casting metal tools was found in northern China.

Substituting iron molds for pottery ones made the manufacture of tools more efficient. Thus, metal implements could now be produced in large quantities.

XV Chu Tombs at Chiangling,
Hupeh Province
(5th century B. C.)

Chu, one of the most powerful feudal states during the Warring States Period, had its capital at Ying. Three tombs were excavated there, in modern Chiangling county, during 1965 and 1966.

Uncovered were some 900 objects including bronzes and jade ornaments.

Especially noteworthy are the bronze sword decorated with turquoise [#127] and the iron belt-hook inlaid with gold [#129].

(On south wall of G-7)

XVI.A. Pottery Molds
of Warring States Period
from Shansi Province
(5th century B. C.)

Over 30,000 pottery molds, cores, and models for casting bronze were excavated at Houma in 1959 and 1960.

Positive clay models [#131 and #132] were made in preparation for the negative molds [#130], into which molten bronze was poured. The examples on display demonstrate the detailed workmanship necessary for piece-mold bronze casting.

(On west wall of G-7)

XVI. B. Bronzes
of Warring States Period
from Shantung Province
(5th century B. C.)

Numerous bronzes inlaid with gold and silver were found at sites in northeastern China in 1954 and 1964.

A major new development in China, the technique required cutting shallow grooves into the bronze, setting thin segments of gold or silver into the incisions, and then smoothing the surfaces.

Chin Dynasty
(221-207 B. C.)

For the first time in Chinese history, the country became unified under a centralized feudal authority. The First Emperor of Chin abolished the vassal system and established prefectures and counties. He introduced a uniform system of writing and standardized money, weights, and measures.

The walls which had been constructed during the Warring States Period were rebuilt, expanded, and linked to form the Great Wall of China.

bb

XVII. Cultural Relics of the Chin Dynasty
from Shensi and Shantung Provinces
(3rd century B. C.)

In 1962 Chinese archeologists surveyed the mausoleum of Chin Shih Huang,
the First Emperor of Chin, and its vast surroundings.

The large clay statue of a woman [#139] was unearthed near the remnants
of the funerary mound. This kneeling figure is a masterpiece of ancient
Chinese sculpture.

4/2

Han Dynasty
206BC-220AD

Sculpture of the Han dynasty is lively and vigorous, often depicting daily life in realistic terms. Pottery, silks, and other applied arts are also decorated with elaborate, animated designs.

Divided into Western Han (206BC - 24 AD) and Eastern Han (25-220AD), the dynasty was a period in which the multi-national country was consolidated. As a result of Chang Chien's travels in the second century BC, trade routes to the Mediterranean became firmly established. Later named the "Silk Road", they promoted exchanges between East and West.

An outstanding Chinese contribution at this time was the invention of paper.

XVIII. The Tombs of Liu Sheng, Prince Ching
of Chungshan of the Western Han Dynasty,
and of His Wife at Mancheng,
Hopei Province
113 BC

Excavations at Mancheng brought to light more than 2,800 objects in 1968. They came from two large tombs - those of Tou Wan and her husband Liu Sheng, who was the half-brother of Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty.

Exhibited in this room and the next are vessels and ornaments from the princely household that were buried in the graves, as well as weapons and acupuncture needles from Liu Sheng's tomb. The artifacts not only show the extravagance of the ruling class during the Han dynasty but also provide important data for research into the period's social history, art, and culture.

(Entrance to G-4)

XVIII. B. The Tomb of Tou Wan
at Mancheng, Hopei Province
(2nd century B. C.)

Tou Wan's burial suit, which has been restored, consists of 2,160 jade plates. Jade was thought to prevent corpses from decaying. The pieces are held together with gold wire passed through holes in the corners; burial suits of only the highest rank of feudal aristocracy were threaded with gold.

The symbolic discs of jade and the gilded headrest also came from the princess' tomb and were distributed much as they are arranged here.

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XIX. Western Han Tombs at Shihchaishan
Chinning, Yunnan Province
2nd - 1st century BC

Between 1955 and 1960 some forty tombs of the King of Tien of the Western Han dynasty and his family were excavated in southwestern China.

These new finds, comprising nearly 5,000 objects, furnish information about the artifacts and social life of the ancient people living in the southwest. Among the three-dimensional bronze animals and figurines, the scene on the container for cowrie shells [#172] is particularly interesting. Cowries were used as currency.

XX. Applied Arts of the Han Dynasty
206 BC - 220 AD

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, many Han dynasty cultural relics have been found in various parts of the country.

Exhibited here are two of some 4,000 horsemen from a large Western Han tomb in central China. Of painted pottery, the lifelike horses and riders formed an honor guard to the deceased.

XX. Applied Arts of the Han Dynasty
206 BC - 220 AD

The Han artisans' skill in inlaying bronze with gold and silver is evidenced here. Refining the technique of the Warring States Period, the craftsmen created resplendent effects by laying delicate lines of precious metal into the bronze. In some instances, the vessels were gilded. For decorative motifs, the designers favored animals and birds. The inlay on the chariot ornament [#203] presents a vivid picture of Han nobles hunting.

XX. Applied Arts of the Han Dynasty
206 BC - 220 AD

These pieces exhibit the realism characteristic of the Han art. While the wooden animals [#208 and #209] have clean-cut, almost abstract lines, their postures are nevertheless realistic. The mythical unicorn was thought to have the power to ward off evil.

XXI. Bronze Figurines, Chariots and Horses
from an Eastern Han Tomb in
Wuwei, Kansu Province
2nd century AD

A large Eastern Han tomb was discovered in 1969. It contained over 220 artifacts and 30,000 copper coins.

Like the cortege of warriors, chariots and horses in the following room, this galloping horse is spirited, vigorous and beautiful. They vividly depict the pomp and splendor of the procession of the feudal nobles.

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The Three Kingdoms, the Western and
Eastern Tsin, and the Southern and
Northern Dynasties
220-589 AD

Among the many achievements by the Chinese people during these periods were excellent ceramics and stone sculptures.

For nearly four centuries China was divided and redivided. In this unsettled period were the Three Kingdoms of Wei, Shu and Wu (220-265 AD), the Western Tsin dynasty (265-316 AD), the Eastern Tsin dynasty (317-420 AD), and the Southern and Northern dynasties (420-589 AD). By the time of the Southern and Northern dynasties, Buddhism, which had been introduced to China in the Han dynasty, spread and flourished.

XXII Ceramics of the Tsin and Southern
 and Northern Dynasties from
 Chekiang, Kiangsu and Honan
 Provinces
 265-589 AD

Techniques for making proto-porcelain developed in both north and south China. Gray-green glaze, the prototype of later celadons, was introduced. Particularly noteworthy is the large jar (#236]; its miniature buildings portray the strongholds which landlords south of the Yangtze River built during the Western and Eastern Tsin dynasties.

XXIII Stone Sculpture of the Northern
Dynasties from Shansi and
Hopei Provinces
'386-581' AD

Stone sculpture enjoyed popularity at the time of the Northern Dynasties.

The pieces exhibited here have graceful forms and meticulous details.

The two column bases [#244 and #245], unearthed from a tomb at Tatung, were probably carved at the same time as the sculpture in the Yunkang rock-cut temples at Tatung, a treasure house of China's ancient stone sculpture.

XXIV. Han and Tang Dynasty Cultural
Relics from Sinkiang Uighur
Autonomous Region
1st-7th century AD

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, silk and woolen fabrics as well as cottons have been discovered along the old Silk Road in northwestern China. These pieces are historical evidence of the trade between China and the central and western Asian countries.

Most frequently the fabrics carry traditional Han patterns of lozenges, birds, and flowers. Others, however, have bordered medallions or confronted birds - popular western Asian designs woven for export.

Official and private documents and remains of food were also discovered along the old Silk Road.

Sui Dynasty

581 - 618 AD

Porcelain, distinguished for its snow-white body and sparkling glaze, was produced during the Sui dynasty. This new ware laid the foundation for the manufacture of white porcelain in the Tang and Sung dynasties.

The Sui regime, which ended the confrontation between the Northern and Southern Dynasties, once more unified China. In the first years of the seventh century the Sui government dug a grand canal to join the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers. Extending nearly one thousand miles, this giant engineering feat linked the rich agricultural region of the Yangtze with the north.

XXV Chang Sheng's Tomb of Sui Dynasty
at Anyang, Honan Province
(595) AD

In 1959 the tomb of General Chang Sheng and his wife was unearthed at Anyang. The burial accessories numbered 192 pieces.

Among the finds were porcelain figurines glazed in the sparkling white of the Sui dynasty. The statuette of an attendant [#273] is remarkable for the clear-cut lines of dark glaze picking out details. Made of pottery, the charming set of musicians [#265-#272] vividly depicts the social life of the time.

Tang Dynasty
(618-907 AD)

Green, brown, and cream, as well as other glazes were used to produce the renowned "three-color" pottery that was a special Tang art. Celadon and white porcelain wares as well as gold and silver work were also excellent. Particularly significant in this period, however, were the large paintings that covered the walls of caves and tombs.

Due to economic growth, the Tang dynasty was a prosperous era. New water conservation projects and expanded irrigation increased agricultural production, and commerce between China and other Asian countries was frequent.

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XXVI. Surveys and Excavations of the Tang
Capital Changan at Sian,
Shensi Province

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, extensive surveys have been made at the Tang dynasty capital at Changan. The city was one of the largest in the world at the time; nearly a million people lived within its walls.

In 1970 a hoard was discovered at the site of a suburban mansion belonging to the Prince of Pin, Li Shou-li. Li, who died in 741 AD, was a cousin of the Tang emperor Hsuan Tsung. Among the 1,023 finds, gold and silver vessels alone accounted for 216 items.

XXVII. Tomb of Princess Yung Tai
of Tang Dynasty at Chienhsien,
Shensi Province
706 AD

The tomb of Princess Yung Tai and her consort was excavated in 1962. She was the granddaughter of the famous Empress Wu Tse-tien.

Totaling more than 1,000 pieces, Princess Yung Tai's burial accessories included three-colored pottery horses, painted pottery figurines, and ceramic utensils. The rubbings [#307 and #308] reproduce the incised figures on her stone sarcophagus. The picture of the princess' attendants [#306] is a copy of a mural in the tomb; covering the ceilings and walls, they are masterpieces of Tang dynasty wall paintings.

XXVIII. Fine and Applied Arts of
Tang Dynasty
618-907 AD

In 1959 a Tang dynasty tomb (first half of the eighth century) was excavated at Chungpao village, Shensi province. Among the many splendid examples of three-colored pottery, the female figures [#314 and #315] are noteworthy for their lively expressions and resplendent glazes.

In 1971 and 1972 the tomb of Crown Prince Yi Teh (early eighth century), a grandson of the Empress Wu Tse-tien, was uncovered. Among the 1,000 burial objects was the large-sized horse and rider [#309], a celebrated piece of Tang dynasty pottery.

Also excavated in 1971 and 1972 was the tomb of Crown Prince Chang Huai (654-684 AD), second son of Empress Wu Tse-tien. In his tomb were more than 600 burial objects and over fifty wall paintings. The procession scene [#327 and #328], shown in copies, depicts the pomp and extravagance of the Tang feudal nobles.

XXVIII. Fine and Applied Arts of
Tang Dynasty
618-907 AD

The excavations of Tang dynasty tombs have yielded large numbers of porcelains, bronze mirrors, and three-colored pottery vessels, all showing fine workmanship.

Five Dynasties
907 - 960 AD

Some of the finest examples of Yueh porcelain, a type of celadon, come from this time. More than twenty Yueh sites, dating from the Tang to the Northern Sung dynasties, have been discovered since 1957. By the Five dynasties period this celebrated ware was produced in a great variety of forms and types.

A peasant uprising in 875 AD destroyed the feudal rule of the Tang dynasty. After the regime fell came a period of disunity known as the Five dynasties - all centered in the Yellow River Basin. In other parts of the country, more than a dozen local powers arose one after another.

Sung Dynasty
960 - 1279 AD

Porcelain-making further developed during the Sung dynasty with improvements in the preparation and firing of body and glaze, as well as innovations in design and modeling.

The Sung dynasty falls into two periods: The Northern Sung (960-1127 AD) and the Southern Sung (1127-1279 AD). As agriculture, crafts, and commerce increased, flourishing cities arose. Sea communications and international trade expanded; large Chinese vessels carrying five to six hundred passengers plied between ports in China and the Persian Gulf.

The invention of movable type for printing, the compass, and gunpowder are great contributions made to world civilization during the Sung dynasty.

XXIX. Five Dynasties Tomb at Linan
Chekiang Province
10th century AD

In 1969 funeral accessories were unearthed from a tomb in the principality of Wuyueh, a local regime in power between 893 and 973 AD.

Among the finds was a score or more of Yueh celadon, all of fine texture and workmanship. The large Yueh vase with painted designs and green glaze tinged with yellow [#329] is an unusual piece.

XXX. Sung Dynasty Porcelain
960-1279 AD

Hundreds of ceramic kiln sites have been discovered, surveyed, or excavated since the founding of the People's Republic of China.

Ting ware [#333-#338] became one of China's famous porcelains produced during the Northern Sung dynasty. With a lustrous, ivory-colored glaze, it has a thin body of fine texture and is decorated with carved, incised, or impressed designs.

The Tzechow kilns produced a folk ware with designs executed in different techniques. The pillow [#347] is an unusually early example of painted decoration with figures.

Lungchuan celadon [#339-#342] was at its best during the Southern Sung period. The thick and smooth green glaze is remarkable for its jadelike quality.

Ying-ching [#343-#345] was a new ware during the Sung dynasty. The porcelain is thin-walled, of fine texture, elegantly fashioned, and has a misty blue glaze. Since the glaze is thicker in the impressed designs, the blue varies subtly.

The Yaochow kilns were discovered only after the founding of the People's Republic of China. The products [#346] were the main group of celadons made in the north during the Northern Sung period.

XXXI. Tomb of a Liao Princess' Consort
at Chihfeng, Liaoning Province
959 AD

In 1953 the tomb of Prince Wei Kuo, consort of a Liao princess, was discovered in northern China. The grave contained more than 2,000 funeral accessories, most of them used during the prince's lifetime.

The major portion of the tomb porcelains, such as the flask in the shape of a leather pouch [#349], were white. Also among the burial objects were sets of silver riding equipment ornamented with splendid designs [#352 and #353].

The Liao, Kin and Yuan Dynasties
916-1368 AD

The noted blue-and-white porcelains represent a new technique in Chinese ceramics. Those of the Yuan dynasty demonstrate skillful craftsmanship.

During the period in which the Sung, Liao, and Kin dynasties existed side by side, there were frequent economic and cultural exchanges among the different peoples. At the end of the twelfth century the Mongol tribes inhabiting the region between the Khingan and Altai mountains united and in 1271 AD founded the Yuan dynasty.

The Venetian Marco Polo (1254-1324 AD) visited many Chinese cities in the early years of the Yuan dynasty. His travels gave Westerners a vivid picture of China's prosperity at that time.

XXXII Pottery Dramatic Actors
of the Jin and Yuan Dynasties
from Shansi and Honan Provinces
(1115-1368 AD)

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, models of stage shows and figurines of performers have been found in Jin and Yuan dynasty tombs in northern China.

The pottery figures, portraying actors in a lifelike manner, show the extent to which drama had developed at the time. Although Chinese theater has an early origin, during the Yuan period drama evolved into a composite art integrating music, dance, recitation, and acting.

XXXIII Remains of the Yuan Capital,
Tatu, at Peking
(1267-1368 AD)

Tatu, the Yuan capital, was a world-famous metropolis; its ruins lie beneath present-day Peking. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, extensive surveys and selective excavations have been carried out at the site.

The large number of porcelains uncovered at Tatu included pieces of Ying-ching ware and early examples of blue-and-white porcelain and Chun ware. The latter is universally admired for its thick blue glaze sometimes flushed with lavender and crimson.

XXXIV Porcelain, Silver and Lacquer
Wares of the Yuan Dynasty
(1271-1368 AD)

Significant in this period are blue-and-white porcelains, which have designs painted with cobalt pigment under the glaze; the large octagonal pot with dragons [#369] is a rare example of Yuan blue-and-white porcelain. Chun [#371], universally recognized for its thick, mottled glaze, is another important ware of this period.

The lacquer box [#373] was found in the tomb of Jen Jen-fa, a well-known Yuan dynasty painter. The Chinese were the first to use sap from the lacquer tree as a protective and decorative covering. Elaborate carving in lacquer was a Yuan innovation.

In the silver toilet set [#374-385] is a mirror stand in the form of a miniature folding chair.